DELCAMBRE TELEPHONE COMPANY, INC.

TELEPHONE (318) 685-2311



LANE J. LEBLANC PRESIDENT & MANAGER

NOV:Z:4 1997

104 N. CORNER STREET

DELCAMBRE, LOUISIANA 70528

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November 19, 1997

Office of the Secretary Federal Communications Commission CC Dkt 96-45 Room 222 1919 M Street, NW Washington D.C. 20554

Re: Self-Certification of Delcambre Telephone Co., Inc. as a Rural Telephone Company

Dear Ms /Mr.

This is to notify the Commission that Delcambre Telephone Co., Inc. is a "Rural Telephone Company" under the terms and definition contained in the Communications Act, as amended. This notification is being submitted pursuant to the requirements of the Commission as specified in its Public Notice released August 14, 1997 (DA 97 1748). Delcambre Telephone Co.provides telephone exchange service including exchange access to 1394 access lines as of October 22, 1997. Since this is fewer than 50.000 access lines as specified in Section 3(37)(B) of the Communication Act, Delcambre Telephone Co. meets the criteria for classification as a Rural Telephone Company.

I, Matt Leblanc, hereby certify that the above representations are known to me to be true and correct as of the date of this filing.

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DELCAMBRE TELEPHONE COMPANY, INC.

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LANE J. LEBLANC PRESIDENT & MANAGER

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FCC MAIL ROOM

104 N. CORNER STREET DELCAMBRE, LOUISIANA 70528

AFFIDAVIT

STATE OF LOUISIANA

PARISH OF VERMILION

BEFORE ME, the undersigned notary public, personally came and appeared MATTHEW LEBLANC, Vice President of Delcambre Telephone Company, Inc., who, being duly sworn by me, did depose and declare:

In the FCC May 7 Report and order, the FCC provided that "in order for the administrator to calculate support payments, a carrier must notify the FCC and state commission, that for purposes of universal service support determinations, it meets the definition of a rural carrier."

I hereby certify that Delcambre Telephone Company, Inc. meets the definition of rural carrier.

MATTHEW LERLANC

Sworn to and subscribed before me in the Parish of Vermilion, at Delcambre, Louisiana, this 19th day of Novem BEK, 1997.

RANCIS KURT LEBLANC NOTARY PUBLIC

BEFORE THE LOUISIANA PUBLIC SERVICE COMMISSION ECEIVED EX PARTE NOV 24 1397

Docket No. U-22762

Delcambre Telephone Company, Inc., ex parte.

FCC MAIL ROOM

In Re: Exemption from the Provision of Toll Limitation to Qualified Low Income Consumers and Designation and Certification as an Eligible Telecommunications Carrier.

ORDER NO. U-22762 (Decided at the October 22, 1997 Open Session)

Section 254(e) of the Telecommunications Act mandates that a telecommunications carrier may not receive funds from the Federal Universal Service Fund after January 1, 1998, unless it is designated as an eligible telecommunications carrier (ETC) under section 214(e) [of the Telecommunications Act] by the state public service commission. 47 U.S.C. § 214(e)(1) provides that only those carriers who offer and advertise all of the services supported by the Federal Universal Service Fund are eligible for ETC designation.²

However, 47 C.F.R. § 54.101(c) allows state commissions to grant requesting carriers additional time to complete any network upgrades that are necessary in order to provide single-party service, access to enhanced 911 service, or toll limitation, if exceptional circumstances warrant granting the additional time. Therefore, a carrier that does not currently provide these three services may receive universal service support, beginning January 1, 1998, for the duration of the period designated by the state commission while system upgrades are completed.

Delcambre Telephone Company, Inc. ("Delcambre") petitioned this Commission for certification as an Eligible Telecommunications Carrier, without intervention. Delcambre submitted an affidavit declaring that it provides all of the required universal services except toll limitation.³ Delcambre requested additional time in order to upgrade its system to comply with this requirement.

This matter was brought before the Louisiana Public Service Commission at its Open Session on October 22, 1997. After discussion on the merits and a motion by Commissioner Dixon, seconded by Commissioner Sittig, the Commission unanimously voted to designate the above named carrier as an Eligible Telecommunications Carrier. The Commission further voted to grant the carrier additional time to comply with the toll limitation requirement and that exceptional circumstances warranted the granting of additional time.

¹ 47 U.S.C. § 214(e)(2) mandates that a state commission, upon its own motion or upon request, designate a common carrier, that meets the above requirements, as an eligible telecommunications carrier for a service area designated by the State commission.

² The supported services are: 1) Single-Party Service; 2) Voice Grade Access to the Public Switched Network; 3) DTMF Signaling or its functional equivalent; 4) Access to Emergency Services; 5) Access to Operator Services; 6) Access to Interexchange Service: 7) Access to Directory Assistance; 8) Access to Toll Limitation for qualifying low.

IT IS THEREFORE ORDERED THAT:

- 1. Delcambre be designated as an eligible telecommunications carrier for the Delcambre exchange, pursuant to 47 U.S.C. § 214(e).
- 2. Delcambre be granted an extension of time until December 31, 1998 to upgrade its system to provide toll limitation.
- 3. Exceptional circumstances warrant the granting of said extension of time.
- 4. This Order is effective immediately.

IT IS SO ORDERED

BY ORDER OF THE COMMISSION BATON ROUGE, LOUISIANA

November 6, 1997

/S/ DON OWEN DON OWEN, CHAIRMAN DISTRICT V

/S/ IRMA MUSE DIXON IRMA MUSE DIXON, VICE-CHAIRMAN DISTRICT III

/S/ C. DALE SITTIG
C. DALE SITTIG, COMMISSIONER
DISTRICT IV

/S/ JAMES M. FIELD
JAMES M. FIELD, COMMISSIONER
DISTRICT II

/S/ JACK "JAY" A. BLOSSMAN, JR.

JACK "JAY" A. BLOSSMAN, JR., COMMISSIONER
DISTRICT I

SPERMANY